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SHORT ACCOUNT
OF THE PRINCIPAL
SEATS AND GARDENS
IN AND ABOUT
RICHMOND AND KEW.

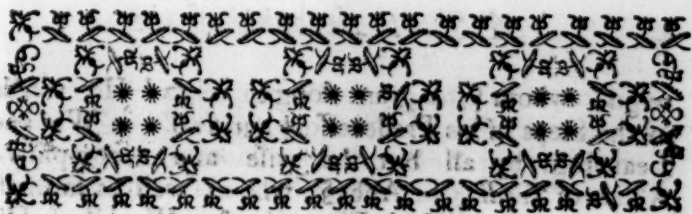


BRENTFORD:

Printed and Sold by P. NOBURY, near the Market-Place;
and GEORGE BICKHAM, in Kew-Lane, Richmond.
Where may be had, a Description of the House and
Gardens of Blenheim, Ditchly, and Stow; like-
wise a Description of Kensington, Hampton-
Court, and Windsor.

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A

SHORT ACCOUNT
OF THE PRINCIPAL
SEATS AND GARDENS, &c.



Some Account of a little *Kingdom*
on the Banks of the *Thames*.



HIS KINGDOM is situated on the Banks of the *Thames*; its Soil Gravelly, its Air balmy, clear, and healthful: The whole Place is one continued Garden. Plenty and Pleasure are the Ideas convey'd by its large Fields of Corn and its verdant Meadows; tis govern'd by a Kingll, whom Arts (not Arms) recommend to the Dignity, the Government not being Hereditary: He is proclaim'd by a Muse, and acknowledged by the People. Their last Monarch * was the Terror of Fools and Knaves, and the Darling of the Learned and Virtuous: He reigned long over them, belov'd and well establish'd, and was succeeded by their present Sove-

|| Mr. Cambridge.

* Mr. Pope.

reign!

reign, whom God grant long to reign ! He treads in the Steps of his Predecessor†, unrival'd in Wit and Learning, by all but the wise and accomplish'd Abbot of *Teddington Abby*§, who as well as himself, makes a distinguish'd Figure in the World‡. His Palace stands in a large Plain, near the Place for embarking, which is the Boundary of his Kingdom.

As his Majesty is a great Friend to sumptuary Laws, he avoids all Appearance of Shew, both in his Garb and Habitation, for which Reason his first Care was to destroy the Palace Gardens ; he leaves the Enjoyment of his Meadows and Grove to his Subjects, which has much encreas'd his Popularity, and has also put up many Seats and Benches, for the Ease and Satisfaction of his People, whose Esteem he makes it his Study to acquire ; and indeed has succeeded as much as any Monarch can expect : For, like the *Britons*, they love and revere him.

The Meadows are verdant, large, and beautifully situated ; all along the River-side they are level and easy ; but higher, the Ground rises into little Hills, and the lofty Trees in many Parts offering their Shade, render it the most beautiful of Places.

† Alluding to that excellent Mock Heroic Poem of the *Scribleriad*, the Hint of which Mr. *Cambridge* took, from Mr. *Pope's* Memoirs of *Scriblerius*,

§ Mr. *Walpole*, the ingenious Author of a List of Royal and Noble Authors.

‡ Both these Gentlemen had a considerable Share in that Work,

The

The Grove runs along the upper Part of the Mead, about three Quarters of a Mile in Length, and rather narrow ; it lies not in a strait Line, but winding in and out ; it is covered with a green Turf, as soft to the Feet as Velvet, and fenc'd on each Side by thick Bushes of Roses, Orange-Flowers, Honey-Suckles, Lilacs and Sweet-Williams, and shaded by the finest tall Trees that grow. There are many little Rustic Seats, besides two large commodious ones, which would serve for a Shelter against Rain and Sun : To this Place you are guided by the aromatic Smell of Plants, and the warbling of Birds. Wherever the Trees and Bushes are a little open, it shews the loveliest Meads in the World, full of Flocks and Oxen grazing ; and beyond, the River, with *Richmond* on the opposite Side.

The Genius of the Inhabitants inclines not towards Commerce, Architecture seems their chief Delight, in which if any one doubts their excelling, let him sail up the River and view their lovely Villas beautifying its Banks ; Lovers of true Society, they despise Ceremony, and no Place can boast more Examples of domestic Happiness. Their Partiality for their Country rises to Enthusiasm ; and what is more remarkable, there is scarce any Instance of a Stranger's residing for a few Days among them, without being inspir'd by the same rapturous Affection for this Earthly *Elisium*. Their Laws and Customs are dictated by Reason, and regulated by social Love. Happy ! thrice happy they, to whom it is permitted to spend their Lives in such a Country, such Society, and under such a Government ; possess of

—An * elegant Sufficiency ; Content, Retirement, rural Quiet, Friendship, Books, progressive Virtue, and approving HEAV'N.

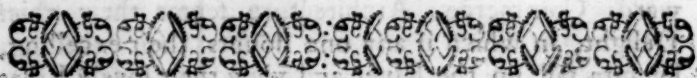
* Vide Thompson's Seasons, Spring.

The



The Earl of CARDIGAN's
at *Richmond*, in *Surrey*,

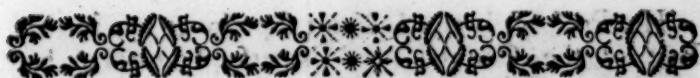
IS under *Richmond Hill*, and stands so shady, that every Apartment in it is as cool and as gloomy as a Grotto. Its pendant Gardens are almost in the River, and so thick planted with Trees, that the Sun has no Admittance; the River appears very beautiful from it, and Mr. *Cambridge's* fine Meads on the opposite Side, give it the most chearful Prospect imaginable.



The Countess of SUFFOLK's,
at *Twickenham*, call'd *Marble-Hill*,

IS most properly stiled *Marble-Hill*, for such it resembles. in a fine green Lawn open to the River, and adorned on each Side by a beautiful Grove of Chesnut Trees; the House is as white as Snow, a small Building without Wings, but of a most pleasing Appearance; the Garden is very pleasant; there is an Alley of flowering Shrubs, which leads with an easy Descent down to a very fine Grotto; there is also a smaller Grotto, from whence there is a fine view of *Richmond-Hill*.

The



Mrs. PRITCHARD's House
at *Twickenham*, called *Ragman's*
Castle, from its original Builder,

STANDS behind three very fine lofty Trees, which fence it from the Sun and Wind, without intercepting the Prospect; tis situated exactly opposite to *Ham-Walks*, which, together with the woody Side of *Richmond-Hill*, give it the Advantage of a very rich Prospect: The Front of the House is very pretty, being covered with Gravel, and the best Room (with a handsome Bow Window) forms a very uniform Appearance: This Appartment is hung with India Paper, dispos'd in a most elegant Taste. It represents a Chinese Pavilion supported with Lilac Pillars. In several Parts there are Looking Glasses so artfully placed in the Chinese Houses, that the Prospect is seen by every Person, from every different Part of the Room, which in the Afternoon, when the Barges are coming up, presents the most beautiful moving Picture imaginable.



Mrs. CLIVE's, at *Strawberry-Hill*,

IS a little Cottage of plain Appearance, almost buried in the surrounding Meads.

Her

Her Prospect is equal, if not superior to any in that Part of the Country, and is perfectly rural; her Gardens are laid out in an excellent Taste, and are of considerable Extent: the Inside of her House is far more elegant than the Outside seems to promise; and is altogether a charming Retirement.



HORACE WALPOLE's Esq;
at *Strawberry-Hill, Teddington,*

REPRESENTS an antient Abby, and the Inside is quite answerable to its venerable Aspect. The Rooms and Furniture have all the noble Simplicity yet Magnificence of Antiquity, without its Decay. The State Bed Chamber is hung with a plain Lilac Paper and cover'd almost with Pictures, finely copied from the Originals of *Holbens*, in black Frames with a Gold Worm; the Chairs in this Room (and indeed throughout the whole House) are black Ebony, exquisitely wrought: The Bed, which stands behind two Screens of antique Carving, in the Manner of an Alcove, is made in the Form of a Canopy, supported by four fluted Pillars of black Ebony; it is compos'd of the finest Lilac Broad Cloth, lin'd with white Sattin, and a Counterpane of white Sattin also; the whole is adorned with a tufted Fringe of black and white: At the Top is a most elegant Plume of white *Ostrich* Feathers, and above that another of Lilac; but the Gothic Taste is admirably preserved thro' the whole; this is call'd the *Holbens Chamber*. The Windows are all Painted, and so exquisitely,
that

that they seem to promise a Revival of that long forgotten Art. The Library contains a fine Collection of Books, and is entirely calculated for learned Retirement and Contemplation. You are struck with an Awe at entering it, proceeding from

** The high embowed Roof.
And antique Pillars massy Proof,
And storied Windows richly dight,
Casting a dim, religious Light.*



The Earl of RADNOR's at *Cross-Deep, Twickenham,*

IS situated in an open romantic Country, with as fine a View of the River as any in those Parts: the Rooms are small but elegantly fitted up, and there is an excellent Collection of Pictures; a noble Gallery runs the whole Length of the House, adorn'd with Paintings of great Value: if there is any Fault, it is that of being too much Ornamented; but this is greatly aton'd, by the exquisite Taste that is display'd thro' the whole. The Garden is not equal in Situation to the House, for there is not one View except that of the River thro' the subterraneous Passage which his Lordship cut under the Road for a Communication to his Garden, from the fine Lawn at the back Front of his House by the River-side.

** Il Penseroso.*

B

But

But that which surpasses every other Beauty is the Cold Bath, a small Building open to the River, with an Alcove at each End ; one of which contains the Water, and is adorn'd with the finest Shell Work, from a Piece of Rock, a perpetual Rill of Water drops with an agreeable Murmur in many little Streams into the *Bath* : Over the Alcove is this Inscription from the 6th Satyr of *Horace*,

Hoc erat in Votis :

Hortus ubi, & tecto vicinus jugis Aquæ Fons.

The other contains a Side board, and the Middle is a pretty square Room adorn'd with Pictures : There is also a beautiful *Chinese* Tower which stands near the Water.



Sir WILLIAM STANHOPE,
at *Twickenham*,

IS in Possession of that famous Garden and Grotto, formerly Mr. *Pope's*, and of which (in one of his Letters) he has given a Description, that in Beauty exceeds (in my Opinion) the Place described. I shall therefore only remark an Obelisk at the upper End of the Garden, erected in Memory of his Mother, on which is inscribed this short but pathetic Exclamation.

*Ah ! Editha Matrum Optima, Mulierum
Amantissima, Vale !*

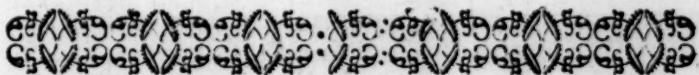
This

This is a Circumstance of more Credit to him than all his Works ; for the Beauties of Poetry are tasted only by a few, but the Language of the Heart is understood by all. Nor does the Author of the *Essay on Man*, surrounded by the Muses, and invoking his *St. John*, appear half so amiable, as the pious Son Lamenting over the Remains of his aged Parent.



Mr. BARLOW's, at *Twickenham*,

IS small, but the extreme neatness of the Outside, which is perfectly White, makes it a striking Object from the River : a large Room with a fine Bow-Window to the Water, hung with Buff Colour and adorn'd with Prints, cut out and elegantly disposed, is its chief Ornament ; the Garden is laid out to as much Advantage as so small a Piece of Ground is capable of.



Mr. HUDSON's at *Twickenham*,

IS situated in the happiest Spot imaginable, though small, its Beauties are numerous and striking ; the nicest Judge might examine this little Museum, and not be able to discover a Fault : The back Front stands in a Lawn of the finest and most verdant Turf, close to which runs the River, always smooth, full, and clear ; on the right Hand of the Lawn is a little

Shrubbery, where blooms every fragrant Flower, and many curious Exotics. In the House there is one Chamber fill'd entirely with Prints, the finest Collection perhaps that ever was seen; another Room is furnish'd with Pictures, all perfect in their Kind; there is a Holy Family by *Raphael*, and *Rembrandt's* Head of inestimable Value: There is also a Bed Chamber hung with blue Paper, of the softest and most delicate Tint: it is adorn'd with Sketches and Drawings by the most eminent Masters, and surrounded with a Border of Papier Mache gilt.



Essex in *Surrey*, belonging to the
PELHAM Family.

IS built in the Form of an old College, and stands in a Valley, surrounded by those Grounds which are so much and so justly celebrated; they are neither Park, Garden, nor Wood, but a lovely Mixture of all Three: On the highest Eminence stands an Octagon Summer-House, commanding from each of its eight Windows, a Prospect so rich, so various, and so unbounded, that the Gazer's Eye is oppress'd by the Profusion of Beauties, and knows not where to fix: It is not possible to describe, or do Justice to this enchanting Spot, it must be in Words of that sweetly descriptive Poet *Thompson*.

Heav'n's what a goodly Prospect spreads around,
Of Hills, and Dales, and Woods, and Lawns, and Spires.
And glittering Towns, and gilded Streams, till all
The stretching Landscape into Smoke decays.

Claremont



*Claremont, belonging to the D. of
Newcastle,*

IS a House and Gardens belonging to the late Duke, a Mile beyond *Essex*: The House is an old fashion'd ungraceful Building, consisting of the main Body and two Wings; the best Rooms in it are a handsome Saloon, and beyond that a Ball Room, supported by Corinthian Pillars, and surrounded by a Gallery; all the other Apartments are very small, and very ill furnish'd, but that which is most remarkable, is the top Room of all, for the House lessening to a Point, finishes with a pretty good Apartment, with Windows backwards and forwards: when you look down from the Front you see the Lawn and Avenue below, but when you turn to the back Window, you are astonish'd to find yourself on a Level with the Garden, into which you enter by a large Glass Door that reaches to the Ground. Throughout the whole House the Fore Rooms are raised very high from the Ground, and the back Apartments are even with the Garden, which may serve to give some Idea of it's great Height. The Garden contains 360 Acres, and is extremely Magnificent. The Walks are all very fine, and there are many pleasant Buildings in it; there is one Part of it of an excessive Height, from the Summit of which there is a noble Prospect, chiefly consisting of barren Heaths, but so beautifully variegated, that it is noble and pleasing at the same Time. The side of this Eminence from Top to Bottom is planted as thick as possible with Shrubs, which forms a very agreeable Object from the Plain beneath, and is called the *Amphitheatre*; there is no Water but what is brought from a distant Spring

Spring into a large full Bason, close by the Brink of which is an irregular Rock, compos'd of Spars, Fossils, &c. that seems the happy Work of Nature; such is its elegant Rusticity. There is a Turret also, containing a beautiful Room surrounded by Windows, over this are Leads, from whence is seen an extensive Prospect on every Side; but in my Opinion it falls far short of *Esher*, both in Richness and Variety, yet *Claremont* wants not for Partisans that give it the Preference to its * Sister Beauty.

* *Esher*,



The D. of ARGYLE's, at *Whitton*,
near *Hounslow Heath*,

STANDS in a Garden, and is a regular handsome Building: There is on the Ground Floor one fine well proportioned Room, where stands a Chinese Pagoda of Mother of Pearl, of exquisite Workmanship; at the upper End of it is a Collection of China, consisting of the greatest Curiosities in Porcelaine: In the next Room is a beautiful Collection of Butterflies and other Insects; and also Drawings of Birds, Fishes, and Fruits colour'd and highly finish'd. The upper Floor is in the Chinese Taste; a with-drawing Room hung with fine India Paper, the Curtains and Chairs of painted Taffeta; next to that is a Bed Chamber in the same Manner, with a most elegant painted Taffeta Bed, and a Palampour of the same: On each Side of the great Room below Stairs, is a long Gallery, in one of which are all the Instruments which the Duke used in his Mechanical and Chymical Experiments;

Experiments ; and along the opposite Side, are a Set of Admirable Drawings ; the other is fill'd with Books and Drawings also. The Garden contains 30 Acres, and is in no very extraordinary Taste ; on an Eminence stands a round Tower, which contains two Rooms, one over the other. In the Tower are some Chairs of a curious Construction invented by the Duke. Here is also a Chinese Instrument called a *Gom*, made of Copper, almost in the shape of a Dish, which being struck with a Stick cover'd with Packthread, gives a clear, full, and harmonious Sound, which vibrates a long while, and gradually dies away : From the Leads of this Tower, there is an extensive Prospect, but very inferior to most of those mentioned in the foregoing Pages. In one Part of the Garden there is a fine Collection of Exotics ; among which are the Coffee Tree, the Banana, the Chian Pepper, the Palm Tree, the Pistachio Tree, the Torch Thistle, and many others equally valuable for their Scarcity and Beauty : among the rest the ever-green Oak, which flourishes in equal Verdure all the Year, and has a Leaf exactly like the Myrtle, also a Cork Tree. The best View is from the Mount on which the Tower stands, which is cut into an Arch, that contracting the Prospect, forms a very striking Point of View from the farthest Part of the Garden.



Mr. SOUTHCOTE's, at *Wey-*
bridge, call'd *Wooburn Farm*,

EXCELS by the Beauty of its Situation and Pros-
pects : Scarce a Spot in this Garden but presents
a different Landscape ; and tho' it wants Water, the
repeated

repeated yet different Views of the River, and *Walton* and *Chertsey* Bridges, which in one Part of the Garden are both seen at once; fully atones this Fault: Nature has indeed been particularly bountiful in contributing to this Garden its most striking Beauties, the Ground being very Hillv. The lower Part is terminated with light pretty Buildings.



The Earl of PORTMORE's, at
Weybridge.

THO' not far from the Earl of *Lincoln's* wants the Advantages of a rising Ground, being situated in a very flat Country; but this is amply made up by some Beauties peculiar to itself; the most remarkable of these, are two navigable Rivers which run thro' the Garden, as it is perhaps, the only one in *England* that can boast so fine an Object. There is also a Cascade overshadowed with weeping Willows of extraordinary Beauty. The Trees are all extremely fine, and there is a grand Collection of Flowers. Near one of the Rivers (and quite shaded with thick large Trees) stands a Farm, in which they greatly delight: It consists of a Parlour and a Chamber over it, which projects with a large bow Window, from whence the River, which runs close at the Roots of the Trees, resembles an Arm of the Sea, and forms the sweetest View that can be conceived. The whole Furniture and Appearance of delightful Farm, can only be described by saying, it is most truly the *Simplex Munditiis*. There are also some Exotics of extraordinary Growth and Beauty, particularly the Tulip Tree in full Blow, the first that
ever

ever bloom'd in *England*. There is a fine Lawn to to the back Front of the House.

As Lord *Lincoln's* is distinguish'd by its Terras,
so is Lord *Portmore's* by its Rivers.



Mr. GARRICK's, at *Hampton*,

STANDS in the Town of *Hampton*, but is quite conceal'd from View by a high Wall: Nothing can be neater, or fitted up with more decent Elegance than this little Box; every Room shews the true Taste and Genius of the Owner; the whole is like a fine Miniature Picture, perfectly well finish'd, tho' extremely small; the Drawing Room is however, of a handsome Size, and may be properly call'd a large Room; 'tis hung with Canvas painted all in Greens in the most beautiful Manner imaginable, and decorated with Carvings of the same Colour; the Garden is laid out in the modern Taste, with a Passage (like my Lord *Radnor's*) cut under the Road, to a Lawn, where close by the Water-side, stands the Temple of *Shakespear*. This is a Brick Building, in the Form of a Dome, with a handsome Porch, supported by four Pillars. Opposite to the Entrance in a large Nich, stands a Statue of the Poet * as large as Life, at his Desk, in an Attitude of Thought. The Figure is bold and striking, the Drapery finish'd in the most delicate Manner. The Sculptor has display'd as many nice and masterly Strokes in the Statue of *Shakespear*, as the Possessor has in that Poet's most favourite Characters.

* Roubilliac.

C

The



The Earl of LINCOLN's, call'd
Oatland's, at *Weybridge*, in *Surrey*,

IS about a Mile beyond *Weybridge* situated in the midst of a noble Park. The Gardens contain 150 Acres, and are divided by a fine Canal. The whole is laid out in the modern Taste, of Flowering Shrubs, Lawns, Clumps, &c. In Part of it there is a beautiful Managerie, and between the Habitation of each particular Fowl, a Plantation of the finest Flowers, which when in full blow, perfume the Air at a considerable Distance. Beyond that is a fine Green House, piled up with Oranges and various Exotics; behind which is an Aviary of every kind of Singing Birds who are so conceal'd by the Trees, that tho' they fill the Garden with Harmony, it is impossible to discover whence it proceeds. But the principal Beauty of this Garden, consists in a most superb and magnificent Terras of a Mile and an Half in Length, which my Lord has lately turfed and planted with Clumps of Trees, at convenient Distances: It is of a great Height, and the whole Length of it commands a Prospect in Beauty and Extent equal to that of the Terras at *Windsor*: for the River meandering along the Foot of it, the Country, farther than the Eye can reach, seems to belong to the Garden, *Walton Bridge* forming a principal and beautiful Ornament to it. The House is not remarkable.

The



The House of the Duke of St.
ALBAN's, at *Windsor*,

IS no farther remarkable than for its Paintings, of which there are some very Capital Pieces, particularly the Gallery of the Knights of the Garter, all whole Lengths, done by *Vandyke* and Sir *Peter Lely*, and some Flower Pieces; the Garden is very tolerable, considering it stands in the middle of a Town. There is a very pleasant Summer House which looks into the Forest.

F I N I S.

